



**OFFICE OF PLANNING
STATE OF HAWAII**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
ACTING DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-2846
Fax: (808) 587-2824
Web: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/>

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Acting Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM
Wednesday, February 18, 2015
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HB 1194
RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL COMMERCE.

Chair Brower, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the House Committee on Tourism.

The Office of Planning (OP) respectfully offers these comments on HB 1194, which seeks to allow agricultural commerce, rather than agricultural tourism, in an agricultural district, and deletes the provision requiring counties to adopt agricultural tourism ordinances before allowing agricultural tourism activities in an agricultural district.

OP prefers a bill with a similar intent -- HB 904, an Administration bill, which seeks to allow agricultural tourism activities, including overnight accommodations, as a permissible use for bona fide farming operations in the State Agricultural District. HB 904 also sets uniform standards for defining a bona fide farming operation for the purposes of regulating agricultural tourism activities statewide.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.